

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of December 4, 2009 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 4 is amended to specify that the print assembly has a plurality of controllers, with each controller mounted on a respective printed circuit board and being connected to a plurality of the printhead chips via individual flexible printed circuit boards of each printhead chip and to the other controllers. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, at page 4, line 26-page 5, line 14 of the present specification; and dependent claims 7-13 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application, nor any new issues to the prosecution of the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 4, and claims 7-13 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Scheffelin in view of Matsumoto, because Scheffelin merely discloses a single controller 20 which is connected to all of the printhead dies 40 via the printed circuit board 78 (see col. 7, line 1-col. 8, line 46) and Matsumoto discloses that each heating resistor has a respective driver circuit (see col. 7, lines 38-31 and 41-45), such that no combination of Scheffelin and Ishinaga would result in the arrangement of the claimed invention..

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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